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PREPARATIONS FOR THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Mobilization of voluntary resources for the World Summit for Social Development

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In its resolution 47/92, the General Assembly, inter alia, invited the Secretary-General to establish a trust fund and to mobilize voluntary contributions from public and private sources for the financing of the additional activities required by the preparation and holding of the World Summit for Social Development. In response to that request, the Secretary-General has established the Trust Fund for the World Summit for Social Development.

2. In order to mobilize contributions to this Fund, a number of fund-raising activities are envisaged. As a first step, the Secretary-General will inform all Member States of the existence of the Fund and will urge those countries in a position to do so to contribute generously to it. He also will publicize the establishment of the Fund as well as its purpose and terms of reference to interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations as well as to foundations, private enterprises and concerned individuals.

3. In addition, experience has shown that donors are often willing to contribute resources to voluntary funds when the specific purpose to be achieved with those resources - for example, the financing of the participation of least developed countries, the convening of seminars or regional meetings, and the support of national activities - is known. Consequently, once the activities of the preparatory process are determined, the Secretary-General will inform interested parties on a regular basis of such plans and seek their support.

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* A/CONF.166/PC/1.

4. The Secretary-General also intends to mobilize the United Nations system as a whole to contribute to the preparatory process. Agencies, funds and programmes will be encouraged to include in their programme budgets specific allocations for activities that could contribute to that process.

5. Mobilization of support for the World Summit for Social Development will be an ongoing process. It will be essential to create awareness at the local, national, regional and international levels of the Summit's core issues as well as of its objectives. The Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat will launch an information campaign for this purpose, and it is anticipated that the increase of such awareness will have a multiplier effect resulting in increased resources for the preparatory process as well as for the Summit itself.

6. The Secretary-General will continue to inform the Preparatory Committee of the activities being carried out for this purpose.